PRICE ONE CENT

CITY PAID OUT \$24,408,000 FOR XMAS PRESENTS

Talk of "Hard Times" Routed by Estimate of Sum Spent in Marking Holiday This Year.

Useful Gifts Prevailed, Beauty Being Sacrificed for Utility, According to Elated Shopkeepers-All Stores Shared in Profit.

WHERE MILLIONS WENT FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

| ato | res | | | à. | | | \$16,000,000 |
|------|------|------|------|----|----|------|--------------|
| ry . | | | 60 | | | 63 | 563,000 |
| | 200 | | | | | 8 | 1,700,000 |
| hops | 100 | 201 | 1 | ш | 50 | 2 | 983,000 |
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| | | | | | | | |
| | hops | hops | hops | ry | ny | hopa | atores |

The citizens of Philadelphia put \$24,408,000 into their pockets and went forth to do their Christmas shopping. And they spent every cent of it. When they returned ome their collective wallet was as empty as Old Mother Hubbard's cupboard and as flat as a flounder—the flattest of things. Startling as this sum may seem in the face of all the recent chatter about financial depression, yet it is based on a careful computation which had as its foundation actual figures furnished by many of the leading firms, and in the opinion of those experts who keep their Anger on the pulse of Christmas conditions from year to year, it underestimates rather than overstates expendi-

than \$24,000,000! And this, of course, does not include the great sums spent in foodstuffs nor for the Christmas liquid which cheers and also inebriates. Nor does it take in the incalculable number of money gifts which were distributed or the large sums which big-bearted people give away to charity at this time of the year. If all these things were sounted in Philadelphia's Christmas budget, it is not at all improbable that the Sum would exceed \$30,000,000.

From the proprietor of the smallest shop in the most obscure side street to the managers of the big department stores on Market street, all show smiling countenances this morning, which may be translated to mean that war, high cost of living and such like bugbears have not

THE WEATHER



growl about snow, and the slush it brings, and the dampness, and the sore throats and tonellitis resulting, had to hang their heads. It might have been that way, It is quite true, but it wasn't. And didn't you feel a bit cheerier and more Christ-massy walking around with the snow arranching under your feet and the biting air bringing real holly beiry solor to a person's cheeks. For know you did. There was Santa Claim, too. He did come in a sleigh with his eight reindeer. No doubt about that.

Not this year.

FORECAST For Philadelphia and vicinity-Fair and continued cold.

| Observations at Philadelphia |
|--|
| Barometer 10 degree Wind North, as mile 12 recipitation last 54 hours North 10 mile 12 |
| Almanas of the Day |
| ния вып. полительности в настрой в то в настрой в настр |

Monte scrip 120 & m. 150 & m. 150 a. Lamps to Be Lighted

in and other vehicles 4:55 p. m. The Tides

POWT BICHMOND. CHESTOUT STRAINT WHARF. NAMES OF THE PARTY (tomerrow) Highlakwayerk

Skating Today

There is sketting on Questins, Con-names and Hunting Fact Lukes and he Wisselstoken Greek from Point of locals, at Hidge seation, in the log-

BIG FIRE IN CHELSEA, MASS.

Whole Lower Section of the City is Threatened.

CHELSEA, Mass., Dec. 26.—The whole ower section of the city is threatened today by a fierce fire which started in he building of the Pope & Cottle Lumber Company, 140 Carter street,

An appeal for all was sent to nearby towns and the firebonts are on the way m Boston harbor.

CRAZED BY HORSE'S KICK

Victim Makes His Second Attempt at Suicide.

Temporary insanity, caused by a kick rom a horse four years ago, caused Budd Peters, 2525 Marston street, to attempt to end his lifethis morning in the kitchen of his home, according to relatives. The man is dying in the Women's Homeopathle Hospital.

Peters was found by his wife, Mrs. Letitin Peters, who had gone downstairs to prepare breakfast. The man had wrapped an overcont about his head and clinched tightly between his teeth was a rubber tube, connecting with a gas jet on the wall.

CHRISTMAS FIRES FEWEST IN ANNALS OF DEPARTMENT

Only Nine Small Blazes Reported in City Yesterday.

Christmas Day, 1914, will go down in the fire department annals as the most safe, sane and sensible to date. Only nine fires were reported yesterday in dwellings

throughout the city, and in each case the loss was trifling.
Christmas Day, as a rule, is a busy one for the firemen. In former years the lighted candles on the Christmas trees and cotton decorations brought ruin and death to more than one family.

This year has been an exception and

This year has been an exception and speaks well for the years to come. In general, Philadelphia mothers, fathers and children obeyed Fire Marshal George ElHot's instructions. Electric lights took the place of candles, the practy but dan-gerous cotton trimmings were replaced by asbestos paper and Christmas trees were kept away from gas jets. Fire Marshal Elliot expressed himself this morning as highly pleased with the

'Instructions have been carried out, he said. "Incidentally, matches have been kept away from children and as-bestos paper trimmings have been used. As far as I know, few accidents have been reported."

WOMAN DIES WITH ONLY PET DOG AS COMPANION

Barking of Half-starved Animal Gives Mournful Signal to Police. In a beautifully furnished and immaculately clean house at 200 Latimer, street lived Miss Mary Dougherty. A peculiar and eccentric character, the woman lived alone with only a pet woman lived alone with only a pet collie as a companion. From the nar-ratives given by neighbors, Miss Dough-erty lavished all her affections upon the dog. One of the set habits of her daily routines was to take the dog out for a walk in the afternoon. Both were a fixture on the strests of the neighborhood and every day the neighbors looked for the woman, tastefully dressed, leading the collie by a silver chain. The children of the neighborhood knew Miss Dough-erty and her companion very well, hav-ing met them every day on their return for the afternoon session of ached.

for the afternoon aession of school.

Ever since last Tuesday the neighbors had been missing the pair. Various rumors were affeat. Some said the woman probably had gone away on a trip. Others said that she had made up with her brother, her only known relative, and had gone to his house. Late last night some one heard a dog barking in Miss Dougherty's house. The police of the 15th and Locust streets station were notified, and Policeman Wretch was sent this morning to make an investigathe afternoon agazion of school Ouch!

This cold gets to the ears, doesn't it?
And there is no reason why anybody eshould be ashamed of the reddest kind of a nose either. Well, it was nice having a white Christmas yesterday. These gloom members of the community who the bed found the woman, dead.

Were notified, and Policeman Wretch was sent this morning to make an investigation. After receiving no reasona was the door except the increased barking of the door except the increased barking of the door and entered. On the stairs, in an emaciated and starved condition, he found the colliceman going upstairs. The latter finally made his way to the second floor bedroom. He opened the door and upon the bed found the woman, dead.

The woman was pronounced dead by The woman was pronounced dead by Dr. John K. Walker, of 2033 Locust treet. Heart disease was given as the

ANNUAL TIPS FALL OFF

cause. The body was claimed by a brother, John D. Dougherty, of 2147 Spring Garden street.

Usual Gratuities This Year Far Below Average.

Christmas tips to hotel employes, etcvator men, orrand boys, ash men and
others who profit by the Christmas spirit
of giving showed a marked falling off
this year, and today members of the
professions named are peeviah. Yestorday
in hotels was a day of giving, for all of
that. The employes may not have as
much today as they had on December is
last rear, but many of them are able to
start tidy hank accounts. Hardly any one
who had money held on to it. The letter
carriers fared well, is many instances,
thus being repaid for having to work
harder on Christmas than any other day
of the year.

U. S. AS SANTA CLAUS

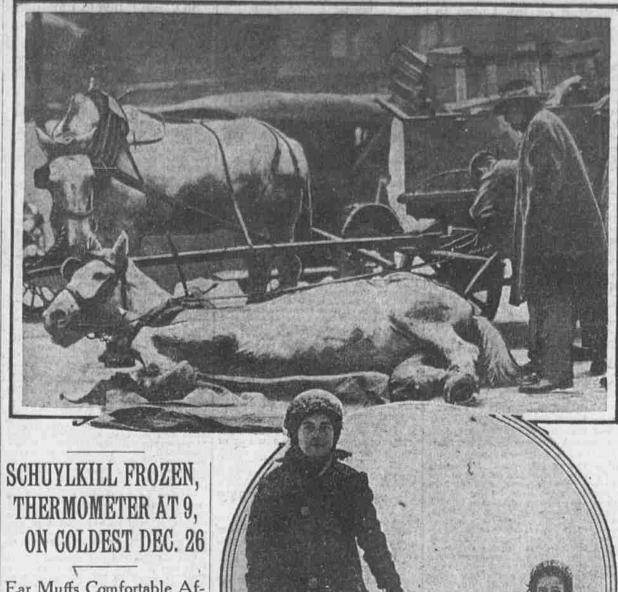
100,000,000 Parcel Post Packages

Delivered During Christmas Season, WASHINGTON, Dec. M. Santa Claus delivered 100,000,000 packages by parcel post during the Christman sesson, ascording to early estimates at the Postoffice Department today.

Boarder Accused of Shooting Couple John Chables, a Negro, and his wife, sidelin, are in the Polyclinic Heapital to-day with right arms in slings, and John Jonson, who housded with them at the Kater street, is in a cell. Johnson is said to have shot the couple, inst night during an argument over the amount of his board bill. The Chapless size charge him with taking 111.70 from the family meany las after he had distilled them. He will be arraigned Monday.

General du Pont Rested Easily WHAMINITON, Inc., Den. M. According to relegance received tast right, General P. Oudenan du Dont, who underwant an appraise Mure, speek a confertable for yesterio. Mure, espeek a confertable for yesteriog. No word has been two ceives today as to his southful.

ROUGH ON HORSES, BUT FINE FOR THE CHILDREN



Ear Muffs Comfortable After Arrival of Severe Cold, Which May Remain Several Days.

Hourly Temperatures

The hourly street temperatures

| ľ | from midnight on | weret |
|----|------------------|-----------------|
| ŀ | Deg | De |
| L | Midnight | 8 a. m |
| П | 1 a. m 1 | 4 9 a. m |
| Н | 2 a. m 1 | 4 10 a. m |
| Н | 3 a. m 1 | 3 11 a. m |
| Н | 4 a. m 1 | 2 Noon |
| į, | . 8 a. m | 4-4 permerciane |
| Į. | 6 a. m 1 | 0 2 p. m |
| Е | 7 8. m ! | 9 3 p. m |
| | | |

Today is the coldest day of the winter so far and the coldest December 26 in the records of the local Weather Bureau. The official thermometer registered 9 degrees at 7 o'clock, but the mercury was nearer the zero mark in the suburbs.

The lowest temperature on the day after Christmas heretofore was 13 degrees in 1903, 1879 and 1878. The thermoneter touched the lowest point this winter until today at 13 degrees on December 15 and 16.

The cold wave reached here in full force early this morning from the lake regions. A storm moving northward from South Carolina contributed its share to

the temperature.

The intense cold served to thicken the ice on ponds and lakes around Philadelphia. The Schuylkill River is frozen over, but the surface is covered with snow and, until thorough tests can be made by the Park Guards to ascertain the danger points, skating will not be permitted.

The near zero weather also makes possible sleighing at various points, for while the snow surface is very light for that sport it is frozen hard.

while the show salvas are very light for that sport it is frozen hard.

While the intense cold was welcomed by sporting enthusiasts throughout the city and suburbs, for many thousands it brought a return of the suffering experienced from the cold snap of a few weeks ago.

John Hickey, 52 years old, 2522 South atreet, was removed almost frozen from the rear of 512 flouth street. He was taken to the Polycinic Hospital where responding to extreme measures of resuscitation, it is expected he will recover,

John Burley, of Phoenixville, sprained an elbow when he slipped on the ice at fist and Dauphin streets. He was taken to the Woman's Homeopathic Hospital.

John McDonald, of 2225 Fairmount avenue, fell in front of his home and was taken to St. Joseph's Hospital suffering

Harry Stickel, 55, of 2507 Brown street, fell on an icy pavement at 22d and Green streets this morning, breaking two ribs and his right knee. He was taken to the Garretson Hospital.

Record Cold in Pittsburgh PITTHBURGH, Dec. 36.—All cold records were broken in northwestern Pennsylvania today when the mercury dropped from it to 36 degrees below zero.

55 Below at Lake Besolation SARATOGA SPRINGE, N. Y., Dec. 16 .thas mains and water pipes are frozen in this vilage today, following the coldest weather of the Year. This morning the thermometer registered & degrees below zero. At Ballston Spa it was ill below. In country towns north of hers the record was ill below. The collect reported was ill below. The collect reported was if below. The coldest reported was to below at Lake Desciation.

Foor Persons in Baltimore Suffer BALTIMORE, Dec. 28.—Baltimore is having its coldest weather of the season today. At 8 s. m. the thermometer registered 5 degrees above zero, having dropped I points during the night. A high whal accompanied the cold and cause much suffering among the poor of the city.

"Coldest Bay" in New York NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—New Yorkers blings urose today in face the content day of the winter. From 14 degrees above zero at maintaight the increasing droubed to 5 degrees above at Ta. 14 So clock it had become in a short at the large architect in the face of the content of above two occupied in the Municipal larges by luminose that the face of the content of o

Today arrived with the coldest weather of the year, imparting a hard glaze to the top of the Christmas anow which proved particularly disconcerting to horses and teams. Drivers had a hard day of it. But the city's boys and girls found conditions just right for sledding and they turned out on every hillside.

VILLISTAS DRIVE **DEFENDERS BACK** NEAR VERA CRUZ

State Department Learns Conflict in West Halted for Decisive Battle is in Progress Ten Miles From City and Beyond Tampico.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.-The real battle for control of Vera Cruz is believed here today to be in progress. Late advices to the State Department say that fighting between Carransista and Villista forces was in progress 10 miles west of Vera Cruz. The attacking columns were reported driving the Carranzistas back on their main lines of defense.

There is also severe fighting reported in the State of Tiaxcala and at Ebana near Tampico. This series of conflicts, it is believed here, will eventually end in success for the convention forces, who outnumber the Carransa sympathizers. Meanwhile, Provisional President Gu-tierres is completing his Cabinet, the

theres is completing his Cabinat, the only vacant places left being the Minister of Justice and of the Interior. In his appointments Gutierres has been impartial between the followers of Zapata and Villa, so that what might have proven a potent source of friction seemingly has been systed. been avoided.

With such a law in force the disbanding of the army would be simplified, and all factions are anxious that a strong civil government be established without delay. so that an appeal may be made to the United States and the A. B. C. Powers for recognition.

for recognition

Money is needed for the affairs of government, but every source of internal supply has been exhausted and a foreign loan is out of the question unless foreign recognition is forthcoming. It is because they realize this that the convention forces are anxious to either compromise with or completely crush Carranas before January 10.

THIEF TRAPPED BEHIND PIANO Couldn't Escape When Family Returned Unspectedly.

The unexpected return of Mrs. Della Foliank, Bill East Letterly street, and Tolisak, Rill East Leiterly street, and her family from making Christmas calls, late hast night, resulted in the arrest of Joseph Josep

PEACE FOR AN HOUR AS SOLDIERS PRAY ON BATTLEFIELDS

Brief Period of Christmas Supplication, Then Battle Resumes.

PARIS, Dec. 26. For one hour on Christmas Day the warriors of the nations locked in deadly conflict in western Europe ceased to fight. During that brief interval the clash of arms and the boom of artillery was halted and hundreds of thousands of soldiers knelt in prayer.

After the short truce had ended, however, the mighty combat in the history of the world was resumed. Frenchman, Briton, Belgian and German, all alike put away the visions of home that the day had called forth and took up again the task at hand, the slaughtering of his fel-

LONDON, Dec. 26. London paid tribute to the man in khaki yesterday and the while nation celebrated what will long be remembered as a Milltary Christmas. Everywhere throughout It is known here to be the intention of the convention leaders when the conference reconvenes on January 10 to attempt to frame a comprehensive land law which Congress will be asked to enact.

London particularly was full of soldiers. Conspicuous among them were saveral thousand Canadians from Salisbury Plain London particularly was full of soldiers. Conspicuous among them were several thousand Canadians from Salisbury Piain. Christmas in London is Sunfay-like, be-cause all the theatres are closed and the botels and public houses keep Sunday hours.

All ranks of the troops at the front

All ranks of the troops at the front and in the home camps were loaded down with presents. Princess Mary's fund for Christmas gifts amounted to nearly 200, 600, while there were numerous funds for tobacco, puddings and other luxuries raised by newspapers and societies.

Even the German military prisoners and civilians in the concentration camps had civilians trees and gifts from home and from wealthy Germans in England. The German Young Men's Christian Association and the English Chakers devoted special care to the prisoners.

FIGHT OFF CHILI REPORTED Believed Dresden Has Been Engaged

Bryan Really Not Going to Resign the second class with two 5-inch guns in its main bettery. She also has 10 s-inch guns in the intended a cumor class civilent fice has II s-inch guns that he intended in resign from the Cub-

OFFICIAL WAR REPORTS

FRENCH There was a light cannonade on the front between the sea and the Lys, where a heavy fog obscured opera-

Between the Olse and Alsne we report that during the day of December St a very severe German attack was repulsed at Chivy, northeast of Soupir. Two strong counter attacks by the Germans were rolled back. During the night of December 24-25 (yesterday) a new counter-attack, particularly strong, was made on a front of 1500 yards and with powerful troops, but it suffered a complete check.

In the Argonne and between the Meuse and Moselle there is nothing to report. In upper Alsace the day was marked by appreciable progress before Cerenay. We reached the edge of the woods on the hills to the west of that town. We maintained, despite numerous counter-attacks, our posi-Between the Olse and Alsne we re-

merous counter-attacks, our posi-

We now occupy the outakirts of lower Anspach and the heights which

lower Anspach and the heights which dominate Carash to the west.

In Russia the Germans, who had forced a crossing of the Baura to the south of Sochaczew, have been thrown back after suffering considerable losses. All their attacks on Hollmusthaw been resumed. In the region of Incolods, on the Pilica, and to the south bitter combats continue. Along the whole course of the Nida and to the whole course of the Nida and to the south of the Vistula the battle is going on under conditions favorable the Russians.

RUSSIAN

There has been no change on the left bank of the Vistula or in Galicia. The Germans delivered attacks on the day and night of December 24, principally in the districts of Sochaczew and Bolimow, but all were repulsed with great loss to the enemy.

Fighting continues on the banks of the Pilica.

TURKISH

Between Olti and Id our troops gained a decisive victory. The battle is being continued with fresh successes. We have captured 6000 prisoners including a colonel and a large quan-tity of ammunition and war material AUSTRIAN

Fighting continued yesterday along a greater part of our front. Our forces beat back attacks of the enemy near Magyag, in the Latourcza region with heavy losses. The enemy was driven back toward Lisko.

Between Wislok and Blala the enemy strandard throughout the whole of

attacked throughout the whole of Christmas Eve and yesterdey with great intensity. On the Donajec our front is unchanged.

GERMAN AIR RAIDER REPORTED KILLED IN SHEERNESS ATTACK

Wrecked Aeroplane Sighted Following Daring Flight Near London - British Gunners Hit Mark.

LONDON, Dec. 26.

The German aviator who tried to attack the British naval base at Sheerness yesterday is believed to have perished. The lighthouse keeper at Kentish Knock, in the North Bea, northeast of the mouth of the Thames River, reported today that yesterday he had seen an aeroplane fall that the any reinforcements are enabling the Russians to attack the entire front of Cracow defense.

The repulse of heavy German attacks north of the Aisne, near Soupir, and Perthes, is announced by the late of the water about a mile from his post. into the water about a mile from his post. French War Office, notwithstanding Gunners who fired on the German flyer along the coast think that they hit the machine and that the damage it suffered at their hands finally resulted in its de-

struction.

That all the German air raids over England have occurred in the daylight is the comment by the London papers this morning. At least three times have aero-planes appeared over Sheerness in the mouth of the Thames, 30 miles from

Ostend, it is believed, is the base from which the German filers operate. Yesterday the airman who flew over Sheerness from the direction of Dover, had undoubtedly passed over that city at such a height that he was not seen, although the populace and garrisons there have been made watchful by the two former attacks by

The German showed great daring in his attempts to ram the three British planes which rose to give him batis. The anti-aircraft guns could not be used against him for fear of hitting the Britons. The film for rear or nitting the Britons. The German rose rapidly to keep his attackers below him and made his escape. The flight took both pursuers and pursued rapidly out of sight and three hours later the three British aircraft returned with the report that the enemy had escaped.

The prompt action of the British aviators in colors to the attack. tors in going to the attack prevented the drepping of any bembs by the enemy, who had hardly been righted before he turned and began his flight.

An air raid over Harwick is feared. Yesterday the Mayor of that city issued this notice.

"Although an attack by the enemy on Harwich fortress is not anticipated at the present time, and there is no special reason for anxiety among noncombat-ants, it is considered desirable to notify the civilian population that in the unex-pected event of belligarent operations the members of the local emergency commit-tee and special constables will direct every one as to the course to be pur-sued. All members of the civil population are hereby required to act strictly in secare hereby required to act strictly in ac-cordance with such directions. All per-sons arriving at Harwich will be required

sons arriving at Harwich will be required to register."

The War Office insued the following statement last night:

A heatile asropiane was sighted to-day at five minutes to 1 o'clock. It was flying yery high from east to west over Sheerness.

British aircraft went up in pursuit and ensuged the ensury, who, after being his three or four times, was driven off essward.

A dispatch from Dover late last night said it was reported there that a German arsopiane flying at a great height passed over the Medway River and Herne Bay during the day. Accoplanes and seaplanes were out on accounting duty for many hours.

MRS. JOHN C. RELL BETTER Becovering From Effects of Surgical

Operation.

Operation.

Mrs John C. Bell, ours of the Attorney General of Peningytvaule, is recovering from the effects of a serious operation which she undersuck recently in the University Hospital.

Although Mrs. Bell's condition has been considered critical until today because of electroness and ferviewness, IV. Electrones and ferviewness, IV. Standard Marin and 21r. J. B. Carnett, who preferred the recently belleve tool to the constitute of the con whay marked the burning point he her

CZAR BREAKS GERMAN LINE: GAINS GROUND IN POLAND

Six Miles Gained by Drive Through Christmas Day Blizzard - Foe Beaten Back From Rawa Hills and Forced From Positions Along Rawka River.

Spirited Surprise Assault Pushes Kaiser's Front 45 Miles From Warsaw at One Point-Victory Gives Russians Control of Situation, Dominating Zone Between Bzura and Pilica Rivers.

The Kaiser's line in Poland has been broken at one point. By a spirited surprise attack through a Christmas Day blizzard a Russian column drove the foe out of its Rawka River posttions and dislodged him from the heights of Rawa, which dominate the territory between the Pilica and Bzura Rivers. The Germans retired to Jezow, six miles from Rawa, and hence in this field are 45 miles from the objective of Warsaw. Victory here has lessened Von Hindenburg's pressure n a strategically important field.

Christmas brought no cessation of hostilities in the Carpathians, where Vienna reports, the Austrians as heatng back heavy Russian forces to Lisko. Between the Biala and Wislok Rivers, further west in Galicia, Russian attacks of great intensity were repulsed, according to the same source of information, which admits

that the Berlin official statement yesterday claimed successes at these points.

The French also claim marked progress in the advance near Anspach, in Upper Alsace, but the official communique is silent as to the offensive against Metz, and the reports that the outer forts of that German sronghold are being bombarded still lack confirmation.

Heavy fogs prevented infantsy movements in West Flanders and the fighting in that region has been largely an artillery duel.

An official statement issued in Berlin says that an attack by French troops was repulsed by the Germans. near Festhubert, the Germans capturing 19 officers, 819 men and 14 machine guns. The Allies left 3000 dead on the field.

Turkish troops have defeated the Russians between Id and Oti, in Armenia, and captured 6000 prisoners, according to a Constantinople statement. Petrograd, however, declares this campaign has been halted altogether by severe weather conditions.

The German airman who yesterday made a daring flight over Sheerness, 30 miles from London, is reported to

Concluded on Page Blz

GERMAN FLEET TO GIVE BATTLE, DANES REPORT

Large Squadron Salls Across North Sea Toward British Coast.

COPENHAGEN, Dec. M .- A German squadron of considerable size is reported to have sailed out into the Morth Hea early today, proceeding toward the coast of England to give battle to the Brillah Best.

LOST AND POUND